

WELCOMING REMARKS OF GENERAL CABELL

5 December 1957

(FSI Mid-Career Course)

It is a pleasure to welcome members of the Department of State to the Central Intelligence Agency. During the next two days, you will receive briefings from a number of our people. These briefings are designed first of all to give you an insight into the Federal intelligence system in general and CIA in particular as well as to acquaint you with the major allied intelligence services and the Russian intelligence service. Thus, the first day will be devoted to comparative intelligence organization. The second day will be devoted to an examination of U. S. intelligence objectives in selected areas of the world--Latin America, the Middle East, the Far East, and the Soviet Bloc.

The purpose of these briefings is (1) that you may understand the role of intelligence in both the formulation and execution of foreign policy and the problems we face in carrying out this role; (2) that you may understand the importance of the part you play as Foreign Service Officers in the collection and production of national intelligence. Foreign Service Officers are, among other things, "collection officers" for U. S. intelligence agencies. Throughout most of American history, they were the sole on-the-spot observers of the activities of foreign nations. They still are among the most important. The bulk of information which goes into intelligence comes from nonclandestine sources. Clandestine collection is designed to begin where overt collection stops. State plays a vital part not only in the collection of information but also in the production of political, sociological, and economic intelligence in its Bureau of Intelligence and Research. The National Intelligence

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Surveys and the National Intelligence Estimates are heavily dependent upon State contributions; (3) that you may understand how our intelligence product can be of help to you, both in the field and on the various desks at headquarters.

We need one another in furthering U. S. interests, and it is in that spirit of interdependence and understanding of each other's mission that we are sponsoring this two-day briefing. There will be several lectures; and all lectures will be followed by ample time for discussion, during which we invite you to ask questions and make comments. We both stand to profit from this exchange of ideas.

The Central Intelligence Agency was created by the National Security Act of 1947 and designed to supplement the existing intelligence agencies of the Federal Government. Its activities were and are designed primarily (1) to fill the gaps in the national intelligence picture and (2) to coordinate intelligence in the interests of national security. The manner of coordination is too complicated a process to enter into at this point, but it is one which achieves its purpose while respecting the autonomy of the departmental intelligence organizations in the carrying out of their missions.

Much good will has gone into the building of what we now call the "intelligence community." Much still remains to be done in building up the quality of American intelligence and to build up the stature of all the Federal intelligence organizations, both departmental and central.

Departmental intelligence and central intelligence are complementary concepts. No central intelligence organization can perform departmental intelligence missions, and departmental intelligence organizations alone cannot meet the needs of national policy planning. Both are needed to reinforce and complement the other. The fruits of such a partnership between the two will redound to the advantage of the entire nation.